

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

**Please amend Claims 1, 6, 29 and 31 so as to read as follows:**

1. (Four Times Amended) A liquid crystal display device, comprising:
  - a liquid crystal display element including:
    - a pair of substrates , and
    - a liquid crystal layer sandwiched by said substrates;
    - a pair of polarizers disposed so as to sandwich said liquid crystal display element; and
  - at least one phase difference plate, each of said at least one phase difference plate defining a surface and being disposed between said liquid crystal display element and said pair of polarizers;
- wherein (i) each of said at least one phase difference plate has three principal refractive indices  $n_a$ ,  $n_b$ , and  $n_c$ , (ii) said refractive indices are mutually related by the inequality  $n_a < n_b < n_c$ , (iii) the direction of said principal refractive index  $n_a$  coincides with the direction of a y – coordinate axis among x and y – coordinate axes on said surface, said y – coordinate axis being orthogonal to said normal, and (iv) the direction of said principal refractive index  $n_b$  inclines relative to the normal to said surface and to the direction of said x-coordinate axis;

wherein the refractive index anisotropy  $\Delta n$  (550) of said liquid crystal material for rays of light having a wavelength of 550 nm is specified to be more than 0.060 and less than 0.120, and wherein the refractive index anisotropy of said liquid crystal material varies with other wavelengths of rays of light within a range that allows substantially no viewing angle dependent coloration to occur in an image displayed by said device.

6. (Twice Amended) A liquid crystal display device, comprising:
- a liquid crystal display element including :
    - a pair of substrates, and
    - a liquid crystal layer sandwiched by said substrates;
  - a pair of polarizers disposed so as to sandwich said liquid crystal display element; and
  - at least one phase difference plate, each of said at least one phase difference plate defining a surface and being disposed between said liquid crystal display element and said pair of polarizers;

wherein each of said at least one phase difference plate (i) has three principal refractive indices  $n_a$ ,  $n_b$ , and  $n_c$ , (ii) said refractive indices are mutually related by the inequality  $n_a < n_b < n_c$ , (iii) the direction of said principal refractive index  $n_a$  coincides with the direction of a y – coordinate axis among x and y – coordinate axes on said surface, said y – coordinate axis being orthogonal to said normal, and (iv) the direction of the principal refractive index  $n_b$  inclines relative to the normal to said surface and to the direction of said x-coordinate axis, and

wherein (i) the refractive index anisotropy  $\Delta n$  (550) of said liquid crystal material for rays of light having the wavelength of 550 nm is specified to be more than 0.060 and less than 0.120, (ii)  $\Delta n$  (450) -  $\Delta n$  (650), i.e., the difference between the refractive index anisotropy  $\Delta n$  (450) of the liquid crystal material for rays of light having a wavelength of 450 nm and the refractive index anisotropy  $\Delta n$  (650) thereof for rays of light having the wavelength of 650 nm, is specified to be not less than 0.0070 and not more than 0.0250, and (iii) the refractive index anisotropy of said liquid crystal material varies with other wavelengths of rays of light within a range that allows substantially no viewing angle dependent coloration to occur in an image displayed by said device.

29. (Twice Amended) A liquid crystal display device, comprising:

a liquid crystal display element including a liquid crystal layer sandwiched by a pair of light-transmitting substrates each having an electrode layer provided thereon;

a pair of polarizers disposed so as to sandwich said liquid crystal display element; and

at least one phase difference plate disposed between said

liquid crystal display element and said pair of polarizers,

wherein the improvement comprises (i) each of said at least one

phase difference plate having three principal refractive

indices  $n_a$ ,  $n_b$ , and  $n_c$  being mutually related by the

inequality  $n_a < n_b < n_c$ , the direction of the principal

refractive index  $n_a$  coinciding with the direction of a

y-coordinate axis among x and y-coordinate axes on each

said surface of said at least one phase difference plate, the

y-coordinate axis being orthogonal to said normal, and the

direction of the principal refractive index  $n_b$  inclining

relative to the normal to said surface and to the direction of

said x-coordinate axis, (ii) the refractive index anisotropy  $\Delta n$

(550) of the liquid crystal material for rays of light having

the wavelength of 550 nm being specified to be more than

0.060 and less than 0.120,

(iii)  $\Delta n(450) - \Delta n(650)$ , i.e., the difference between the refractive index anisotropy  $\Delta n(450)$  of the liquid crystal material for rays of light having a wavelength of 450 nm and the refractive index anisotropy  $\Delta n(650)$  thereof for rays of light having the wavelength of 650 nm, being specified to be not less than 0.0070 and not more than 0.0250, and (iv) the refractive index anisotropy of said liquid crystal material being specified to vary with other wavelengths of rays of light within a range that allows substantially no viewing-angle dependent coloration to occur on a displayed image.

31. (Twice Amended) A liquid crystal display device, comprising:
- a liquid crystal display element including:
    - a pair of substrates, and
    - a liquid crystal layer sandwiched between said substrates;
  - a pair of polarizers disposed so as to sandwich said liquid crystal display element; and
  - at least one phase difference plate, each said at least one phase difference plate defining a surface and being disposed between said liquid crystal display element and said pair of polarizers,

wherein (i) each of said at least one phase difference plate has three principal refractive indices  $n_a$ ,  $n_b$ , and  $n_c$  mutually related by the inequality  $n_a < n_b < n_c$ , (ii) the direction of the principal refractive index  $n_a$  coincides with the direction of a y-coordinate axis among x and y-coordinate axes on each said surface of said at least one phase difference plate, the y-coordinate axis being orthogonal to said normal, and (iv) the direction of the principal refractive index  $n_b$  inclines relative to the normal to said surface and to the direction of said x-coordinate axis; and

wherein  $\Delta n(450) - \Delta n(650)$ , i.e., the difference between the refractive index anisotropy  $\Delta n(450)$  of the liquid crystal material for rays of light having a wavelength of 450 nm and the refractive index anisotropy  $\Delta n(650)$  thereof for rays of light having the wavelength of 650 nm, is specified to be not less than 0.0070 and not more than 0.0250, and

wherein the refractive index anisotropy of said liquid crystal material varies with other wavelengths of rays of light within a range that allows substantially no viewing angle dependent coloration to occur in an image displayed by said device.